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16 September 1969

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The CIA (Manuscript; 113 pp.) by William Read WOODFIELD and Allan BALTER

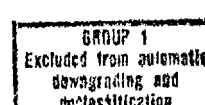
1. The title page describes this work as a "First Draft Screenplay, July 16, 1969, Rev. 8/5/69". It is designated as "No. 81298". The material is stated to be the property of UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, INC.

2. Apart from scenes in the book which require presence on, and photographing of the agency installation (note also the eagle on the cover) which concern the agency's physical security, there appears to be only one other aspect which might be construed as affecting the agency's reputation. Two of four possible agency suspects are portrayed as "junkies" and one of them turns out to be a KGB agent as well, even though he is not the principal, i.e., "Kim" PHILBY.

3. Adaptability for Training Purposes. None. Although the play is claimed to be based on the career of Harold "Kim" PHILBY (p. 113), too many works have already appeared on the market which completely negate any possibility that this version could be accepted even as an edited documentary by any well-read group of people, much less by a group of would-be junior intelligence officers. It would seem all that this play and the real PHILBY have in common are the fact that he was a KGB agent; that he was an M.I.G. officer; that he was in liaison with CIA. The play, therefore, would not hold an agency audience's interest because of its real content.

4. Investigative techniques and tradecraft portrayed in this work rely heavily on fairly far-fetched gimmicks and would only encourage snickers and derision. (cf., description of polygraph examination and interrogation, p. 58.)

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5. Briefly put, this screenplay would produce a low-budget "James Bond" type of movie. It would probably be light and amusing. There is no politico-ideological-motivational content whatsoever which might unduly tax a mind wishing for a few moments of escape. It might be favourably compared with a "Western" which has no heavy-handed "Hollywood social message".



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